

CLAIMS

1. An optical device wherein the direction of beam propagation is selected to be other than those of the (111)-axis direction of a crystal belonging to equi-axis crystal system to reduce birefringence effects based on photoelastic effects due to centrosymmetrically induced stress.

2. The optical device according to Claim 1, wherein the direction of beam propagation is selected to (100)-direction of crystal.

3. The optical device according to Claim 1, wherein the direction of beam propagation is selected to (110)-direction of crystal.